

# CIA Concedes Breakins

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Washington—The Central Intelligence Agency said in documents made public yesterday that it has broken into the overseas homes of left-wing Americans and has conducted secret electronic surveillance of U.S. citizens traveling abroad.

An affidavit by CIA Director George Bush, filed in U.S. District Court in New York City, gave no details about either the burglaries or the telephone taps, claiming the CIA's privilege to secrecy to protect intelligence sources.

The affidavit was filed in response to a \$37-million damage suit filed against government agencies and officials, including the CIA and the FBI, by the Socialist Workers Party. Party officials in Washington made the document public. The party is seeking a permanent injunction to end what it called decades of government spying, harassment and disruptive activities.

A CIA spokesman said the agency has never rejected the use of surreptitious entry as a technique for gathering information abroad. He refused to say whether the CIA still conducts burglaries against American citizens overseas.

Bush filed two affidavits. One, in which the burglaries and electronic surveillance were acknowledged without any details, was made public. The other, in which the details were spelled out, was classified "top secret."

In the public affidavit, Bush said conversations of Socialist party leaders "were overheard by means of electronic surveillance conducted abroad; and that certain other information, apart from conversations that were overheard, was acquired as a result of several surreptitious entries that were made into the premises abroad [to which party leaders had] regular access or may have had a proprietary interest." He said

the electronic surveillance was conducted without obtaining warrants.

A 30-page Justice Department memorandum filed with the Bush affidavit said the CIA may keep the details of the burglaries and telephone taps secret because it is "indisputable that the foreign relations of the United States would be affected by disclosure of the matters."

Party officials, who plan to challenge the CIA's assertion, said it is possible the intelligence agency does not want the details known because the burglaries could have been in violation of the laws of foreign countries.

The Socialist Workers Party is a tiny left-wing organization that was the target of FBI burglaries as part of the since-discontinued "Cointelpro" effort. Although the party's rhetoric is often inflammatory, its members have never been convicted of political violence.

Bush's affidavit referred only to burglaries, bugging and wiretapping against members and officers of the party and its youth arm, the Young Socialist Alliance. But the government's memorandum implied that similar techniques were used against other targets.